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ERPINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1958

Incorporating the

SURVEYOR AND SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.



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To The Chairman and Members of the
Erpingham Rural District Council.

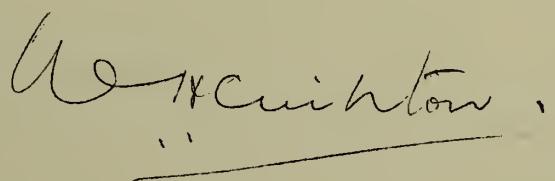
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to submit to you for your information the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1958, to which I have attached the report of Mr. Evatt, the Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector.

In my acting capacity in the regrettable absence of Dr. J.H.F. Norbury, I am very much afraid I could do little more than present the main essentials bearing on the public health of the District.

In the compilation of this Report I acknowledge with gratitude the assistance I have received from the Staff of the Local Health Office and from Mr. Evatt.

Your obedient Servant,



Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Rural Council Offices,
St. Peter's Road,
Sheringham,
Norfolk.

ERPINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

DISTRICT HEALTH, WORKS & PLANS COMMITTEE.

Chairman - Mr. J.S. Coltart.

Vice-Chairman - Mr. H.W. Moulton.

Mr. F.H. Arnott
Mr. O.T.H. Barker
Mr. C.W. Batt
Major W.F. Batt
Revd. R.K. Cheeseright
Mr. W.F. Cully
Mrs. E.L. Deterding
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Mr. E.C. Holland
Major G.T. Howard
Mr. J.C. Laws
Mr. J.E. Mottram
Mr. W.R. Page
Mr. J.E. Sainty
Lord Walpole
Mr. C.R. White

(The Committee meets on the third Tuesday
after Council Meeting.)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. J.H.F. Norbury, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H..

Dr. W.H. Crichton, C.I.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H..
(Acting).

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

Mr. G.L. Evatt, M.I.H.E., F.F.A.S., C.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I..

Additional Public Health Inspector:

Mr. W.J.S. Pratt, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I..

PART I.

GENERAL

1. AREA AND POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT.

The area in acres is 71,099.

The population of the District has been estimated by the Registrar General at 20,120 for mid year 1958. This is 260 more than the estimated figure for 1957.

The number of inhabited houses is 6,238.

The Rateable Value (at 1/4/1958) is £145,126.

The sum represented by a ld.Rate is £567.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

(i) Live Births:

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	119	100	219
Illegitimate	5	5	<u>10</u>
			<u>229</u>

(ii) The Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population is 11.3 as compared with 12.8 in the preceding year. After application of the comparability factor for age and sex (1.21) the corrected birth rate for the district is 13.6. The figure for 1957 was 15.5.

(iii) Still Births:

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	2	5	7
Illegitimate	-	-	<u>-</u>
			<u>7</u>

(iv) Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births: 29.6.

(v) Total Live and Still Births: 236.

(vi) Infant Deaths:

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	-	-	<u>-</u>
			<u>7</u>

(vii) Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births: -

- (a) Total - 30.5
 (b) Legitimate - 30.5
 (c) Illegitimate - Nil.

(viii) Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births:

17.4

(ix) Illegitimate live births percentage of total live births:

4.3%

(x) Maternal deaths: One death has been recorded as attributable to pregnancy and childbirth.(xi) Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births:

4.2

(xii) Deaths: The number of deaths and their causes are shown as follows: -

Cause of death.	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis	1	1	2 (0)
Infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1 (0)
Cancer, stomach	3	1	4 (4)
" lung	4	1	5 (6)
" breast	-	6	6 (3)
" uterus	-	1	1 (2)
" other forms	16	9	25 (20)
Leukaemia	1	-	1 (5)
Diabetes	3	1	4 (4)
Vascular lesions, nervous system	17	18	35 (29)
Coronary disease	31	9	40 (40)
Hypertension with heart disease	3	1	4 (8)
Other heart disease	21	23	44 (58)
Other circulatory disease	7	4	11 (7)
Influenza	-	1	1 (2)
Pneumonia	9	4	13 (7)
Bronchitis	2	-	2 (4)
Other diseases, respiratory system	1	-	1 (2)
Ulcers, stomach and duodenum	1	-	1 (0)
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	1	-	1 (0)
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-	2 (4)
Prostatic enlargement	2	-	2 (5)
Pregnancy and childbirth	-	1	1 (0)
Congenital malformation	-	2	2 (1)
Other illdefined diseases	10	11	21 (18)
Motor accidents	-	1	1 (3)
All other accidents	6	3	9 (5)
Suicide	2	-	2 (0)
	143	99	242 (237)

* Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

The total number of deaths differs little from that of the preceding year - 242 as against 237. Similarly there is little variation in the causes of death and in their relative proportion. The only notable exceptions are the two deaths from tuberculosis of the lung, none of which occurred in 1957; the two suicides, the increase in the number of "all other accidents", nine as against four, which no doubt reflect the accidents caused in the home, and the case of maternal mortality, the first for at least seven years.

The crude death rate is 12 per 1,000 estimated population as compared with 11.9 in the preceding year and

The corrected death rate after adjustment for age and sex (0.80) is 9.6 as compared with 7.8 in 1957.

General conclusions on vital statistics.

Compared with the average rates over the preceding five years the live birth rate is lower (11.3 as compared with 12.8); the crude death rate is lower (12 as against 13.3); the infant mortality rate is considerably higher (30.5 as against 18.9) and, of course, maternal mortality 4.2 as against nil.

3. COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

(i) Notifications were received of only 46 cases, very considerably less than the 299 cases notified in the preceding year. The main differences are represented by the incidence of measles (23 as against 174) which is of periodic occurrence, and in that of whooping cough of which no cases at all were notified as compared with 100 in 1957. It is noteworthy that ten cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year and one of non-pulmonary tuberculosis as compared with five of the former and none of the latter in the preceding year.

(ii) The notifications received are tabulated as follows: -

Disease	Age unknown	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25+	Total
Measles	1	1	6	6	8	-	-	1	23
Scarlet Fever	1	-	1	1	6	1	1	-	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
T.B.Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	10
T.B.Non-Pulmonary	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	2	1	8	7	14	2	3	9	46

(iii) The distribution of the cases notified is tabulated below and shows no significant figures in any particular Parish: -

Parish	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	T.B. Pulmonary	T.B. Non-Pulm.
Alby	-	-	-	1	-
Bodham	-	4	-	1	-
Gresham	-	-	-	1	-
Hempstead	1	-	-	-	-
Holt	3	5	-	1	-
Kelling	-	-	-	1	-
Mannington	-	-	1	-	-
Mundesley	8	-	-	1	-
Northrepps	-	-	-	1	-
Overstrand	-	-	-	1	1
Runton. East	1	-	-	1	-
Runton. West	5	-	-	-	-
Thurgarton	-	1	-	-	-
Trimingham	5	-	-	-	-
Weybourne	-	1	-	1	-
Total	23	11	1	10	1

(iv) Immunisations and Vaccinations. 241 immunisations against diphtheria, alone or in combination with vaccines against whooping cough (pertussis) and lockjaw (tetanus) were carried out in the area during the year. These comprised 126 combined immunisations against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus; 103 combined against diphtheria and whooping cough and 2 against diphtheria alone.

The "triple" antigen (combining protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus) is now generally available for the protection of young children in Welfare Clinics or Family Doctors' Surgeries. It is increasing in popularity particularly in this part of England which has a reputation for tetanus infections, presumably because of its agricultural character. Unfortunately, owing to the risk of provoking an attack of poliomyelitis in a person infected with the virus, all combined immunisations are suspended for six months in the year (April to September) during the poliomyelitis "season". There is reason to hope that once the degree of efficacy of the present poliomyelitis vaccine has been established by further experience, it will be possible for this restriction to be removed in those who have been fully protected by vaccination.

The immunisations carried out during the year in the area are tabulated according to age groups as follows: -

Age at 31/12/58 i.e. born in year:	-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total under 15 years
Total immunised during 1958	37	161	24	1	2	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	231
-ditto- Booster. (Diphtheria)	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	10
Total immunised between 1944/1958	37	211	235	258	275	344	324	224	256	371	344	374	283	210	173	3919
-ditto- Booster.	-	-	-	1	-	5	8	8	45	131	169	284	276	220	244	1391

The various antigens used were as follows: -

Triple Antigen (Diphtheria/ Pertussis/ Tetanus) =	126
Combined Antigen (Diphtheria/Pertussis) =	103
Single Antigen (Diphtheria only) =	<u>2</u>
	231

TETANUS IMMUNISATION - A total of 40 children under 15 years of age and 25 persons over the age of 15 years were inoculated during the year.

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis. The programme of immunisations was ~~actually~~ actively continued throughout the year. It was hampered a great deal by individual doubts on the safety of the different vaccines available and on their efficacy. British made vaccine was not available except in very small quantities, if at all, during the year. Despite these difficulties 3235 persons completed a course of two injections during the year and a further 1123 cases were given their third dose; these represent a total of 7593 injections in the area.

The immunisations carried out are tabulated by age groups as follows: -

Age or Category:																
-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15-25	
1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943-32	
22	212	237	248	214	218	238	202	136	167	174	178	251	192	207	161	

E.M.	G.P.	H.S.	A.S.	TOTAL
105	29	29	15	3235

The above figures relate to those who completed a course of two injections during the year in Area No.2.

In addition 1123 cases who had received the second injection at least seven months previously were given a third injection.

Vaccination against smallpox. The number of vaccinations carried out in the area during the year against smallpox was 239. With re-vaccinations the total number was 322. It will be noted by the following tabulation that the majority of these vaccinations were carried out on children under the age of one year:-

Age at date of vaccination	Under:				5 - 14	15 & over	Total.	
	1	1	2	3				
Primary	193	10	2	3	1	8	22	239
Re-vaccination	-	2	5	3	1	19	53	83

The Tuberculosis Register. As has been noted above 10 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and one of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified as having occurred in the district. The number of cases of tuberculosis notified and remaining on the Register at the end of the year was as follows:-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		Totals
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
New cases	9	1	1	-	11
Inward transfers	1	3	-	-	4
Remaining at 31.12.58	58	48	8	12	126
	<u>106</u>		<u>20</u>		

4. ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE. Mr. Evatt, the Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector in his report (appended as Part II) has dealt adequately with all the points connected with environmental hygiene.

Mention may perhaps be made specially of the new Slaughterhouse Act published in 1958 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. This prescribes certain minimum sanitary standards which must in future be observed by all existing and any future licence holders of slaughterhouses. A report on the present facilities for the slaughter of animals and present and future requirements for each District is to be prepared some time after November, 1959 on the basis of a survey which is to be carried out. Meanwhile all existing licencees have been advised of the minimum standards which are demanded under the new legislation.

PART II.

THE REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

HOUSING - SLUM CLEARANCE.

The scheme was prepared in 1955 and was divided into a five year programme.

A Sub-Committee was appointed to inspect the properties listed and it was decided during 1958 to accelerate the inspections so that the Council's programme for rehousing could be known.

After inspection it was found that circumstances had so changed by reason of extensive repairs having been carried out, rehousing from slum property into existing Council houses etc., that 62 houses had been vacated and either Closing Orders, voluntary demolition or undertakings not to relet, had so affected rehousing proposals as to limit the number of new dwellings required in connection with Slum Clearance to 46.

The first year programme which consisted of 16 dwellings in the Holt area was completed in 1957 and a further scheme for 16 dwellings - Aldborough 4, Gimingham 6 and Holt 6 - was prepared during the year and it is hoped will be commenced in 1959.

The outstanding 14 are in the Cley and Corpusty areas. The preparation of the Cley scheme is delayed until main sewerage is available.

HOUSING - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Many useful improvements have been carried out since the Council's decision to operate the scheme. The position at the end of 1958 was that 37 applications had been approved during the year making a total of 122; 29 were completed during the year and the number completed to the end of 1958 was 100.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During 1958 the Parishes of Upper Sheringham and Weybourne were provided with a mains supply. Of the 44 parishes in the District only 15 are not so supplied but are all included in a scheme which has been prepared in outline, the cost of which is estimated to be £226,000.

The date of the Ministry investigation has been fixed and it is hoped to commence the work in 1959.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The larger parishes of Holt, East and West Runton, Overstrand and Mundesley have had mains sewerage for many years and it is the policy of the Council to proceed with Village Schemes in selected parishes.

In this connection the first scheme has been completed at Gresham (cost £14,301) and much of the work in the Aldborough scheme has been completed (estimated cost £24,615).

It is hoped to commence work in 1959 at Cley (estimated cost £58,885) and the scheme provides for the sewerage of the parish complete with an outfall works designed to accommodate sewerage from parishes in the neighbouring Rural District. (Walsingham). When this scheme is completed it will remedy a sanitary nuisance caused by untreated sewage being discharged into a creek and which has been aggravated by the introduction of a piped water supply immediately after the 1953 floods.

A village scheme at Northrepps at an estimated cost of £17,406 has been prepared and it is expected will be commenced in 1959.

During the year extensions were completed at Holt Sewage Works (cost £6,507) and four sewer extensions in Holt at a cost of £13,250 were part completed.

A village scheme is in course of preparation for Gimingham which involves additional sewers and the enlargement of the Housing Site sewage disposal plant.

Outline proposals for sewage disposal schemes for Corpusty and Southrepps are in course of preparation.

Other sewerage works approved during the year were: -

At West Runton where the fouling of the beach necessitates renewal of part and extension of the sea outfall (estimated cost £4,040); and

At Overstrand where defective piling and a fractured outfall pipe have made the necessity for a scheme urgent (estimated cost £9,672).

It is hoped that both of the above schemes will have been completed before the commencement of the 1959 season.

FOOD HYGIENE.

All shops and food premises have been surveyed. In those parishes where a mains water supply is available there has been a ready response and a general willingness to instal such fitments to comply with the required standards.

When water supply and/or sewerage is available in the larger parishes of Corpusty, Cley, Southrepps and Aldborough I am sure there will be the same ready and satisfactory response.

No prosecutions have been instituted.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There are now five slaughterhouses in the district as compared with 11 which were in operation pre-war. This is an indication in itself of the trend that slayermen are becoming scarce in this area and the practice of purchasing meat killed outside this area is now 75% of that consumed.

One of the above slaughterhouses serves chiefly for the neighbouring Urban District.

Every effort is being made to give 100% inspection of the meat from the five slaughterhouses but Sunday slaughtering and simultaneous timing makes this impossible. I would, however, estimate that 85% of the meat consumed in the district is inspected. Taking into consideration the fact that the standard of home-killed meat is high and generally intended for the small family butcher trade, there is little to complain about and the quantity of meat condemned is relatively small.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Complaints received	....	....	....	....	....	315
Nuisances abated	....	....	....	....	....	203
Notices served	....	....	....	....	....	158
Summons taken out	....	....	....	....	....	-
Convictions	....	....	....	....	....	-
Factories and Bakehouses inspections	....	....	....	....	....	28
Houses disinfected	....	....	....	....	....	15
Oversubscription abated	....	....	....	....	....	4
Houses connected with the sewer	....	....	....	....	....	31
Houses connected with the water main	....	....	....	....	....	264
Improvements to sanitary conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	52
Samples of water taken for analysis	....	....	....	....	....	22
Houses closed	....	....	....	....	....	3
Food hygiene inspections	....	....	....	....	....	98
Holiday Camp inspections	....	....	....	....	....	33
Ice Cream samples taken	....	....	Grade I	....	....	23
	"	II		....	....	1
	"	III		....	....	-
	"	IV		....	....	-

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT IN CONNECTION WITH
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces:

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Written Notices.</u>	<u>Prosecutions.</u>
Factories (including Factory Laundries).	28	1	-
Workshops	4	-	-
Workplaces	-	-	-

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces:

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>No. found.</u>	<u>No. of defects remedied.</u>
Defective water closet.	1	1

GORDON L. EVATT. M.A.P.H.I..F.F.A.S.,

Surveyor, Housing Architect and
Senior Public Health Inspector.

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CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs	Horses.
Number killed (if known)	403	20	-	72	500	-
Number inspected	332	16	-	60	396	-
<u>All diseases except Tuber- culosis & Cysticerci:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part was condemned	70	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	21.08	-	-	-	.25	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	6	-
Percentage of the number inspected with tuberculosis	.9	-	-	-	1.5	-
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

The undermentioned foodstuffs have been condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year, namely: -

Animal carcases and organs	-	16 $\frac{1}{3}$ cwt.s.
Tinned meats	-	40 lbs.
Tinned fish	-	2 lbs.
Tinned fruit	-	12 lbs.
Tinned vegetables	-	4 lbs.
Tinned soups	-	Nil.

